

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from the Area of Frankfurt/Oder

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 25 February 1953

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 3 July 1953

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. The Kech office in Frankfurt/Oder was located in a house on Nuhnen Strasse. The officers employed at the office were billeted in a villa on August Bebel Strasse west of the Kech office. Source stated that the Kech handled quartering and billeting missions and served as a sort of procurement office. It was in charge of the maintenance of military installations and the supply of billeting equipment for Soviet units. The Kech office in Frankfurt/Oder was subordinate to the KEO in Wuensdorf which was headed by Lieutenant Colonel Tuyakov (fmu). Chief of the Kech office in Frankfurt/Oder was Lieutenant Colonel Grsilozbub (fru). His deputy was Captain Popov (fmu) who was in charge of billeting equipment, materials, fire brigade equipment and motor vehicles. Also assigned to the office were Captain Fomenko (fmu) as staff engineer and three Soviet civilian engineers, one for construction work, one for heating installations and one for electrical engineering, and an official in charge of coal and wood supply.
2. A special construction Bureau which was a purely German affair was assigned to the Kech office only inasmuch as it received from the Kech all construction orders for the preparation of plans, computation of costs and execution of building. Soviet Captain and Staff Engineer Fomezko served as liaison officer between the Kech and the construction office which simultaneously was subordinate to German State Secretary Herzberg . Chief of the special construction Bureau was Chief Engineer Rossow . Source exemplified the official procedure between the Kech and the German construction office on the construction of an underground gasoline bunker in Bad Saarow. This project would require that the Soviet Army submitted a pertinent application to the KEO in Wuensdorf which would forward the application to the pertinent Kech offices and, in this specific instance, to the Kech in Frankfurt/Oder. The Kech in turn would contact the special construction Bureau for discussion of the project. The special construction Bureau would submit blueprints and a computation of the costs to the Kech which would have examined the draft through its staff engineer and would forward the draft and a pertinent comment to the KEO in Wuensdorf, at the same time sending copies directly to State Secretary Herzberg. Source stated that, since the special construction Bureau had its offices on the first floor of the Kech, close cooperation was possible.

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Two old and 4 new ZIS trucks

2 GAZ trucks, 1 Citroen truck and sedan

were in the garage of the Kech in February 1953. A Kech hotel for transient Soviet soldiers on leave and detached personnel was near the Frankfurt/Oder railroad station. The hotel was a three-story building and had 65 rooms. It had been built by the Kech and was under Kech administration. Soviet soldiers on leave and other Soviet personnel were billeted there upon report to the Soviet komendatura on Puschkin Strasse.

4. Source concluded from the fact that reference to the Artillerie Kaserne was made with plan Nos 14, 15 and 16 that this barracks installation quartered three independent administrative units. Source thought that one of these units was a Soviet regimental headquarters including a Soviet colonel, one was a battalion of 50-mm AA guns, and one a battalion of 37-mm AA guns. The number of cots and other billeting equipment issued tended to indicate that between 950 and 1,000 soldiers were quartered there. Ten 37-mm AA guns were stored in one barracks building and 10 to 12 85-mm AA guns were stored in a second barracks building. A fuel tank was in one of the low brick buildings. Three low brick buildings which surrounded a small drill ground housed motor vehicles

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The barracks installation also quartered a driver's school which was headed by an officer, had motor vehicles in

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and also performed exercises with trucks towing AA guns. Officers billets were in the houses numbered 61 through 69 on the south side of August Bebel Strasse. A pistol firing range was west of the Artillerie Kaserne. The ammunition depot of the unit was at Lillienhof near Rosengarten. The troops quartered at the barracks installation furnished patrols of one officer and three men armed with submachine guns on three days weekly to check on Soviet personnel at the post.

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5. Unit plan No 1 which source thought was a tank regiment with 550 to 600 men including officers who were billeted in the officers building of the installation was located in the Horn Kaserne. The unit was under the command of a colonel, had Lieutenant Colonel Klomovski (fmu) as administration officer, and included Lieutenant Shagiev (fmu) as deputy supply officer. Twenty JS tanks

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were sheltered in the garages on both sides of the entrance way. The garages in the former returnee camp housed eight JSU-152 guns which belonged to the unit quartered in the barracks installation.

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In early 1953, source learned that the numbers of all armored vehicles would be covered with paint. Two 4-wheel armored scout cars occasionally left and entered the installation. Motor vehicles seen included between 8 and 10 old-type ZIS trucks

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and about 10 3-axle Studebaker trucks and 2 jeeps. Low wooden buildings in the barracks yard housed repair shops, storage rooms and spare part magazines and fuel depots. About 60 percent of the soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, about 10 percent had motor transport insignia and about 30 percent had no insignia. A 60-man band was stationed at the installation. The training grounds were north of the installation and were equipped with antitank obstacles, foxholes, and trip wire entanglements. Infantry combat training was conducted there about twice weekly with individual tanks occasionally providing fire support. Practiced were development and penetration into enemy positions. The unit was also employed for patrol service. The former returnee camp south of the Horn Kaserne consisted of low wooden buildings including some which were rather delapidated. Each of these buildings quartered between 40 and 50 soldiers of the unit stationed at the Horn Kaserne. Other low wooden buildings stored billeting equipment. A Soviet headquarters for returnees which had plan No 2 was adjacent to the Kech camp on Nuhnen Strasse.

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6. The Eichhorn Kaserne was sectioned off into three sections several years ago, with the southern section which was separated by a wire fence housing plan Nos 3 and 25 and the middle section housing plan No 4. The northern section which belonged to plan No 4 was separated from the middle section by a wooden fence. The southern section quartered between 350 and 400 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets without insignia. This unit had plan No 3 and was under the command of a lieutenant colonel who commanded several captains serving as company leaders and one Avtonachalnik. The unit was apparently armed only with carbines, submachine guns, and machine guns. The garages sheltered about 20 old-type ZIS trucks. [redacted]

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[redacted] The first barracks building which was located on the entrance way to the southern section was occupied by unit plan No 25 and served to quarter the entire personnel of the Soviet komendatura. The personnel quartered there included the guards personnel of the komendatura. The MVD jail and officers' billets were also located there. The strength of the unit frequently changed and was estimated at about 250 soldiers. Building and personnel were under the control of the komendatura on Fuschkin Strasse which had plan No 26. The two barracks buildings in the middle section served as quarters for transient Soviet military personnel. One building quartered the guard personnel, the office and the cadre personnel. Its capacity was about 500 persons. About 500 women who arrived from the USSR in late 1952 and early 1953 were quartered there until they were assigned to the individual units throughout East Germany. The Artillery Kaserne at that time housed 30 women in civilian clothing who later received uniforms. The buildings of the northern section included 1 garage which stored coal and materials and another garage which served as repair shop and as storage room for construction material required for the planned reconstruction. The former riding installation was converted into a gymnasium. The stable which was partly damaged sheltered six draft horses. Source learned at the Kech that, in the course of the spring of 1953, the northern section was scheduled to be converted into quarters. The construction work had not yet started in February 1953. Construction material, however, had already arrived.

7. The Ziethen Kaserne quartered unit plan No 7 which, source thought, was a mortar unit; unit plan No 8 which was an artillery unit; and unit plan No 9 which was a tank unit. The total strength of the occupation was about 550 soldiers. Six trucks with 122-mm guns, 4 T-34/85 tanks and 6 heavy mortars were seen at the installation. Three AA guns of 85-mm caliber entered the installation. The personnel of units plan Nos 7 and 8 wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and the personnel of unit plan No 9 wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia.

8. The Buelow Kaserne was occupied by unit plan No 20 which numbered between 500 and 550 soldiers. Senior Lieutenant Monakov (fnu) who wore artillery insignia was supply officer. Two rows each of four guns which had especially long barrels and, source believed, were 100-mm AT guns were in the open quadrangle which was formed by the three garages of the installation. Two T-34/85 tanks stood in front of a low brick building. The unit was commanded by a colonel. About 60 trucks which included about 20 ZIS trucks, 20 Ford trucks and 20 Studebaker trucks; and 3 jeeps were stationed at the installation.

9. The Hofbauer Kaserne quartered units plan Nos 10 and 11 and was generally referred to as officers hotel as it served to quarter Soviet officers. The installation had an estimated capacity of 800 soldiers. Trucks which piled between the installation and the main railroad station were sheltered in the garages [redacted]

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[redacted] Low permanent buildings surrounded by a wooden fence were west of the north section of the Hofbauer Kaserne. They had plan No 82. In October 1952, this area was occupied by a unit of between 250 and 300 soldiers who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets, were armed with rifles and submachine guns and came from Bernau. They had no vehicles when they arrived. The installations including a carpenter's shop, a service station, an old firing range, a saw mill and a camp which were located along the Bernbaumsmuehle spur track were under the control of the special construction office and managed by Germans. The old firing range served as a coal storage place.

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10. The main building of the Hindenburg Kaserne served as recreation center and restaurant for troops at the post. The building housed a club with rooms for a motion picture theater and other entertainment rooms and, on the second floor, had reading and gambling rooms and, on the third floor, apartments for the Soviet cadre personnel. The building which had an outside staircase at its middle section also quartered the officers' club of the post. The two dwellings were occupied each by 250 soldiers of unit plan No 20 which was a tank unit commanded by a colonel. The officers and NCOs of this unit were quartered in civilian houses which had been made part of the barracks area. Eight JS tanks were repeatedly seen with the unit. Trucks 25X1X were seen. This unit was also employed on patrol duty at the post.

11. The service station for the units of the post was located on the east side of Goethe Strasse east of the north section of the Hindenburg Kaserne, was surrounded by a fence and had a spur track. The installation included 10 underground tanks each with a capacity of 5,000 liters. Large Soviet units such as tank units had tank trucks each with a capacity of 3,000 liters and picked up gasoline with these trucks while small units received gasoline with 200-liter containers. The installation was off limits except for Soviet drivers. German drivers had to hand over their vehicles to Soviet drivers and received them back at the entrance gate. Source learned at the special construction office that, because of its unfavorable location in the town, this tank installation would be transferred to the new filling installation near Bad Saarow which was scheduled to be completed on 1 March 1953.

12. The post bakery on Goethe Strasse was under German control and had German personnel. The individual units were issued their supply on presentation of certificates prepared by the Kech. The Soviet ration supply depot which had plan No 21 was located between Georg Richter Strasse and Trautmann Strasse and had a spur track. The installation was a former German ration supply dump and supplied all units in the area of Frankfurt/Oder with all kind of foodstuff except bread. Soviet hospital plan No 19 was the former German hospital on Goepel Strasse and served Soviet military and civilian personnel. Source learned at the Kech that a veterinary hospital would be established on Buschmuelen Weg south of Carthaus Platz in November 1952. A Soviet depot which had plan No 23 and had been a former German depot consisting of low permanent and wooden buildings, was located on Winterhafen northwest of the gasworks and stored field kitchens, kettles of all sorts, and administrative equipment. About 6 officers and 20 soldiers were stationed at the depot which was guarded by sentries wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. German women were employed at this installation until recently.

13. The komendatura building which was located on the south side of Puschkin Strasse was occupied by Colonel Aleksandrov (fmu) as town commander, about 18 to 20 officers, the komendatura personnel, a guard detail and several drivers. Other buildings used by the Soviets included the post office building which housed the army postal office for the post and an SCC building which also quartered the Soviet military court called Procurator. No higher Soviet headquarters was located at Frankfurt/Oder.

14. Five 37-mm AA guns were emplaced in the area between Carthaus Platz and the Oder River since late June 1953. A large circular tent was on a small hill. The approach road to this hill was blocked toward the town by four sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Six officers and about 45 soldiers were at the emplacement. No concrete had been used for the construction of the emplacements. Source noticed two officers he had seen at the Eichhorn Kaserne and concluded that the troops came from this installation.

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15. Tank repair shop plan No 24 was stationed at the former German OT camp in Muellrose. Lieutenant Colonel Glomobski (fmu) from the Horn Kaserne stated that the unit stationed at this installation had its armored vehicles repaired in Muellrose. While at the post, the troops used the area north of Rosengarten for training. In about late April, they would leave Frankfurt/Oder, Fuerstenwalde, Beeskow, Bad Saarow and Kuestrin every year and transfer to Lieberose. They would perform practices as they went to, or came from, the training grounds. The units stationed in Frankfurt/Oder usually marched to Lieberose via the Markendorf-Muellrose road or via Beeskow. Source saw that the columns received training as they marched, changing intervals or distances, taking up cover or halting at flag signals. In early October, the troops returned to their posts. Source learned that an ammunition depot was located in Lilienhof near Rosengarten. The depot was located at the Birnbaumuhle spur track prior to 1951 and was later transferred to Lilienhof.

16. Units located in the area of the Kech office in Frankfurt/Oder included an artillery unit which had plan No 28, was stationed at Beeskow and received furniture picked up by Lieutenant Colonel Shuholov (fmu); two artillery units with plan Nos 116 and 117 stationed at Kuestrin-Kietz which picked up furniture [redacted]

17. A hospital with plan No 113 was located in Berlin-Karlshorst.

18. In 1952, the Soviet high command issued an order that no army postal letters or documents be thrown into waste paper baskets and took measures to enforce this order. Soviet officers were ordered to have films developed only by Soviet offices.

Field Comment. The information checks with available records. Specifically, the information may be commented upon as follows:

Kech: Colonel Tulyakov (fmu) was previously reported as chief of the KSO in Potsdam. He probably is the Lieutenant Colonel Tuyakov (fmu) mentioned in the present report. Lieutenant Colonel Millezup (fmu) was carried as chief of the Kech in Frankfurt/Oder. He probably is identical with Lieutenant Colonel Grsilezup (fmu). [redacted]

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Artillerie Kaserne. The Artillerie Kaserne is carried to quarter the headquarters of the 32d AAA Div (US), 1 medium AAA regiment and 1 light AAA regiment of the division. This would tally with the three plan numbers indicated by source. No AA guns of 57-mm caliber were, however, observed with this division. The other units of the division, namely one light and one medium AAA regiment, were carried in Kuestrin-Kietz. This is confirmed, to some extent, by source.

Horn Kaserne. The information confirms the 84th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 7th Gds Mecz Div [redacted]. The SP guns of the regiment are, however, probably of SU-100 or JSU-249-type. The former returnee camp adjacent to the installation is temporarily used as a transient camp for incoming recruits and other personnel. No soldiers from the Horn Kaserne were previously reported to be stationed at the camp.

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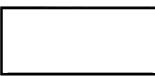
Eichhorn Kaserne. The barracks installation previously included two separate sections, one southwest section and one northeast section. Three sections were not previously reported. The occupation checks, however, with available information which indicated guard details of the komendatura in the southwest section, which possibly also served as quarters for the komendatura personnel, and a billeting equipment and material depot of the Kech in the northeast section. The southwest section was used as processing camp for soldiers, who came or left under the personnel exchange program, and for Soviet women.

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Ziethen Kaserne. The information by source checks only to some extent with available information. The unidentified guards howitzer artillery regiment and the 288th Gds AAA Regt of the 7th Gds Mecz Div as well as a tank repair shop were carried here. No mortar unit was previously reported.

Buelow Kaserne. The information checks with available information on the 25th Gds Mecz Regt of the 7th Gds Mecz Div which is carried here. The Af guns seen must, however, have had 76.2-mm caliber.

Hofbauer Kaserne. The barracks installation was previously reported to be used as quarters for transient officers. A repair shop was also carried there. Elements of the main clothing depot of the GOFG had transferred from Bernau to the hutment west of the installation in the fall of 1952.

Hindenburg Kaserne. [redacted] 25X1X the 57th Gds Tank Regt of the 7th Gds Tank Div as stationed at the installation. The present report is the first to indicate that the main building of the barracks installation is used as post recreation and restaurant. The large service station was previously reported and is located east of the installation while the ration supply depot is located north of the installation.

Komendatura. The location of the komendatura and Colonel Aleksandrov (fmu) were previously reported.

AA gun emplacement. The emplacements were previously reported located at the Eichwald (woods) west of the Oder River on both sides of the railroad bridge. Up to 12 x 37-mm and 85-mm guns furnished by the 32d AAA Div (US) at the Artillerie Kaserne were previously reported.

Post training grounds. Units stationed in Frankfurt/Oder usually conducted practices in the area of Rosengarten.

Beeskow. The 468th Gds Mort Regt of the 7th Gds Mecz Div is stationed at the Reiter Kaserne.

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